



WEDNESDAY, December 28, 1881.

By concurrent action both Houses of Congress stand adjourned from December 23rd until January 5th.

GOVERNOR HOYT gives official notice that \$421,851.60 of our State debt was wiped out during the year 1881.

EX-SENATOR TIMOTHY O. HOWE, of Wisconsin, has been appointed Postmaster General and will assume the duties of his office in the first week of January.

THE PRESIDENT has appointed William Henry Trescott, of South Carolina, to be Special Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Chili, Peru, and Bolivia.

HON. JAS. G. BLAINE has been selected by the Congressional Committee to deliver the eulogy before Congress on the occasion of the memorial services in honor of the late President Garfield.

CAPT. M. R. ADAMS, of Garrett, this county, has been appointed Record Clerk of the House of Representatives at Washington. This is a well merited compliment to a gallant soldier and most deserving gentleman.

THE only law Congress has passed is that providing that all letters sent to or from Mrs. Garfield during the remainder of her life shall be carried free of postage. This honor was never conferred upon but two women—Mrs. President Madison and Mrs. Abraham Lincoln.

ONE of the most honored and able judges of New England, Chief Justice Gray, of the Massachusetts Supreme Court, has been selected by President Arthur to fill the vacancy in the United States Court, caused by the death of Justice Clifford.

MR. BLAINE has put all gossip about his future plans at rest by announcing that he intends to devote his attention to a West Virginia railroad enterprise in which he is interested with Senator Davis, of that State, and several other capitalists.

MR. BLAINE will continue to reside in Washington and take a hand in social and political events whenever his disposition leads him.

GENERAL BEAVER distinctly announces that unless he is the nominee for Governor of the masses of the Republican party he doesn't want it. Of his fitness for the place nobody says a word in denial, and the gallant service he did during the war makes him a man the people like to honor. He doesn't want to run, however, as the bosses' candidate.

ALL of President Arthur's Cabinet appointments, it will be noticed, are old men. Folger is about 64, Frelinghuysen will be 65 next August, Brewster is 65, and Howe will be 66 in February. All of these are veterans in the service of the party, and all men of large public experience.

OF his predecessors, Blaine is 52, Windom 53, and James and MacVeigh younger. Of the remaining Cabinet officers Kirkwood is 68, Lincoln about 40, and Hunt about 40.

A DISCUSSION is now going on in Europe over the abolition of the death penalty, and statistics which have been recently compiled show that the experiment, which has been thoroughly tried in Switzerland and elsewhere, has not demonstrated its success as a preventive of crime.

WHEREVER the penalty of death has been abolished, or the pardon of capital crime frequent, murders have become more frequent and human life made insecure.

THE wife of Gov. Blackburn, of Kentucky, gave an old-fashioned quilting and candy-pulling party at the executive mansion in Frankfort, on Tuesday evening. The ladies who participated were clad in calico dresses, and the bill of fare for the supper included roast 'possum, apple toddy and other delicacies of the old time. The venerable Dr. C. C. Orham, of Louisville, who is on the verge of one hundred years, took part in the Virginia reel.

THE selection of Gen. J. M. Campbell as Chairman of the Committee on Manufactures of the House is an honor worthily bestowed and well merited. It is one of the most important committees of the House—and it is a source of gratification to us all that the chairmanship has been placed in the hands of a gentleman so competent and conscientious in the discharge of his duty.

HON. D. J. MORRELL was chairman of this committee during his second term in Congress.

THE final official figures of the population of the United States at the tenth census make the population of the thirty-eight States 49,871,340, and of the ten Territories (not including Alaska or Indian Territory) 784,433. Total in the States and Territories, 50,655,773. Of the inhabitants making up this total, 25,518,820 are males, and 24,636,963 females; 43,475,940 are native born, and 6,767,943 foreign; 43,402,977 are white, 6,580,738 colored; 105,465 Chinese, 148 Japanese, and 66,407 Indians.

THE JEANETTE'S FATE.

A VESSEL CRUSHED IN THE ARCTIC ICE.

Two of Three Boats in Which the Crew Escaped Heard From and the Men Kindly Cared For.

LONDON, December 20.—The following has been received from St. Petersburg: "Lieutenant General Anouchine, Governor General of Eastern Siberia, who has just arrived here, brought news that a steamer of the North American Polar expedition, which has been lost since 1879, has been discovered and ascertained to be the crew of the Jeanette. The discovery is believed to refer to the steamer Jeanette. The announcement was made at a meeting of the Geographical Society to-day.

The Times understands the British Foreign Office telegraphed to St. Petersburg for confirmation of the news and for further details regarding the Jeanette.

The news in a leading article says: "If the news is correct, it hastens an expedition to help Leigh Smith, it is provided in the news about the Jeanette. That sympathy with such ventures is widespread and deep is proved by the heartfelt experience of the news that the major part of the crew of the Jeanette are alive.

The Post says: "In every part of the globe the news that the brave sailors have reached a port of refuge will be received with heartfelt satisfaction.

The Standard says: "Though the Jeanette has suffered destruction the Americans have added additional glory to that they have already won in frozen regions." It concludes: "It is more than possible the politicians better, but the lawyers and the people would a man chiefly distinguished for his judicial attainments, and they have got such a man in Judge Gray.

LATER AND DEFINITE. WASHINGTON, December 20.—Secretary of State Frelinghuysen received to-day the following telegram from the Charge d'Affaires of the United States at St. Petersburg: "Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.: The Jeanette was crushed in ice June 11th, latitude 77, longitude 157. The crew embarked in three boats and were separated by winds and fog. Number 1, with eleven men, Engineer Melville commanding, reached the mouth of the Lena on September 19th. Subsequent Number 1, with Captain DeLong Doctor Amber and twelve men reached Lena in a pitiful condition. Prompt assistance was sent. Number 2 not heard from.

HOFFMAN, "St. Petersburg." In response to the above the following was submitted: "Department of State, Washington, D. C.—Hoffman, Charge d'Affaires, St. Petersburg, Telegrams to the Secretary of State, Washington, D. C., dated December 14th, 1881, and December 15th, 1881, contain the following information: The crew of the Jeanette, consisting of 28 men, including the captain, were separated into three boats on the 11th of June. The boats were separated by winds and fog. The crew of the Jeanette, consisting of 28 men, including the captain, were separated into three boats on the 11th of June. The boats were separated by winds and fog.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 20.—A special supplement of the Official Gazette, issued this evening announces that all the telegrams from Engineer Melville to the Secretary of State, and the telegrams from the latter to the Secretary of State, are being forwarded to their destination as promptly as possible, and that the most energetic measures will be taken for the discovery of the remainder of the crew of the Jeanette.

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OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, 1881.

Congress has adjourned for the holidays, and we are in the midst of Christmas festivities, which are enjoyed by young and old, in a more wholesome and thorough way than they have been enjoyed at any time since the great financial crash of '73. The young rejoice in a greater opulence of presents, and their parents are happier in their greater power to give. There are no lack of those who lament that Christmas is no longer the series of happy festivals of by-gone years, but they belong to that class who describe a golden age which exists only in the imagination. It is difficult to believe, in the face of ocular demonstration, that the decline in the appetite of the children to-day; their laughter is as genuine, their happiness as simple and spontaneous as ever. Nor are the young-fools, who are by this time too old to be called children, so artificial as they were once. It is true that their tastes are in a certain sense more extravagant than those of their fathers and mothers at the same age. The increase of national wealth has taught us all how many pleasant things money can get—things not only pleasant in themselves, but positively harmless, except where the expense they demand is selfish or unjustifiable. The girls know how pleasant it is to ride along a ringing frosty road on a well-trained easy-going pony; to drive a faultless horse in a pretty phaeton; to have a sleigh ride should an exceptional fall of snow occur; to be able to gratify that most harmless of all tastes, the love of what is pretty in itself, in new dress upon appropriate occasions. The boys, too, know the delight of shouldering a gun, of bristling a bicycle, and of indulging in other many pursuits. They are not, however, so much as they were once. They have learned to appreciate the almighty dollar, we have not, on that account, become slaves to it, and we may safely believe that the hearts of our young folks are as true as ever, their instincts as generous, their appreciation of what is straight-forward, simple and loyal, as keen as it ever was.

And Christmas, now more than ever, is the time to rest such feelings. It is the time when from every side appeals are made to us; the time when we can, each in his own way, do something for the good of our fellow-men. Even those who cannot give in substance can spare their time and trouble; and there are kindly words, and deeds, and thoughts, more precious than gifts, and equally pleasant both to those who give and those who take. Day by day, as the dear old festival draws near, memories and associations cluster round us. We are a year older than we were, and though a year is but a short time in itself, yet a few years go to the making of a life. We are a perceptible step further removed from our youth, with its many-sided pleasures, and its many-sided vitality; a step nearer to the last rest of all. These things need not dread whose life has been happy because they have made happy and bright the lives of others. Christmas may change its customs and habits, and Christmas may be a different festival from that of 1881 is strangely unlike Christmas as it was enjoyed in the days of the first President and his immediate successors, but the human side of the festival, its interest and its sympathies, remain unchanged. Our hearts do not change with our fashions, and with the return of Christmas have again returned all that in our younger days made Christmas gatherings occasions to be long anticipated and affectionately remembered.

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LONDON, Dec. 20.—There were thirty-six injured by the explosion in the coal mine at Bolton. THE COWBOY'S FLIGHT. HUNNEWELL, Kansas, December 20.—The desperado who "rounded up" twelve hundred head of cattle, and escaped, on Sunday night about eight o'clock they come upon some freighters and took five horses. They also made them cook supper and feed their horses before they left. They exchanged these horses for five others at a ranch below. They had a fight last night at Langford ranch, on where they took some saddles. They traveled only by night. In the fight at Dug Out, Jim Talbot had his forefinger shot off, and Dug Hill was shot in the heel. They are evidently aiming for Old Mexico. Talbot is a noted desperado. He killed Marshal and a deputy at Fort Elliot, Texas, in the spring of 1880, and twelve years ago killed two negroes in the Creek Nation without cause. He was also one of "Billy the Kid's" gang of cutthroats. A messenger just in, says the Sheriff is hot pursuit and sent back for twenty-five men. A wagon creek, to meet him at Gutierrez, Indian Territory.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, 1881.

Congress has adjourned for the holidays, and we are in the midst of Christmas festivities, which are enjoyed by young and old, in a more wholesome and thorough way than they have been enjoyed at any time since the great financial crash of '73. The young rejoice in a greater opulence of presents, and their parents are happier in their greater power to give. There are no lack of those who lament that Christmas is no longer the series of happy festivals of by-gone years, but they belong to that class who describe a golden age which exists only in the imagination. It is difficult to believe, in the face of ocular demonstration, that the decline in the appetite of the children to-day; their laughter is as genuine, their happiness as simple and spontaneous as ever. Nor are the young-fools, who are by this time too old to be called children, so artificial as they were once. It is true that their tastes are in a certain sense more extravagant than those of their fathers and mothers at the same age. The increase of national wealth has taught us all how many pleasant things money can get—things not only pleasant in themselves, but positively harmless, except where the expense they demand is selfish or unjustifiable. The girls know how pleasant it is to ride along a ringing frosty road on a well-trained easy-going pony; to drive a faultless horse in a pretty phaeton; to have a sleigh ride should an exceptional fall of snow occur; to be able to gratify that most harmless of all tastes, the love of what is pretty in itself, in new dress upon appropriate occasions. The boys, too, know the delight of shouldering a gun, of bristling a bicycle, and of indulging in other many pursuits. They are not, however, so much as they were once. They have learned to appreciate the almighty dollar, we have not, on that account, become slaves to it, and we may safely believe that the hearts of our young folks are as true as ever, their instincts as generous, their appreciation of what is straight-forward, simple and loyal, as keen as it ever was.

And Christmas, now more than ever, is the time to rest such feelings. It is the time when from every side appeals are made to us; the time when we can, each in his own way, do something for the good of our fellow-men. Even those who cannot give in substance can spare their time and trouble; and there are kindly words, and deeds, and thoughts, more precious than gifts, and equally pleasant both to those who give and those who take. Day by day, as the dear old festival draws near, memories and associations cluster round us. We are a year older than we were, and though a year is but a short time in itself, yet a few years go to the making of a life. We are a perceptible step further removed from our youth, with its many-sided pleasures, and its many-sided vitality; a step nearer to the last rest of all. These things need not dread whose life has been happy because they have made happy and bright the lives of others. Christmas may change its customs and habits, and Christmas may be a different festival from that of 1881 is strangely unlike Christmas as it was enjoyed in the days of the first President and his immediate successors, but the human side of the festival, its interest and its sympathies, remain unchanged. Our hearts do not change with our fashions, and with the return of Christmas have again returned all that in our younger days made Christmas gatherings occasions to be long anticipated and affectionately remembered.

AN ENGINE TAKES A PLUNGE. CHICAGO, Dec. 22.—As an engine and pay car of the Northwestern Railroad were nearing the bridge across the north branch of the Chicago river near Fullerton avenue, about noon yesterday, the bridge swung open suddenly, and before the engine could be stopped it plunged with its tender into the water, the pay car barely escaping by striking the bridge which had begun to swing back. The bridge was badly wrecked. J. M. Leavitt, the fireman, jumped from the engine and swam out. Engineer W. B. Wilcox was pulled out with his left leg broken, and below the knee. The conductor was crushed to death between the engine and tender, and his body is still under water. The accident was caused by misunderstanding of signals.

DEATH OF A VETERAN OFFICER. WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Mr. Lambert Tree, of this city, died at his residence, on Monday, in the eighty-third year of his age. Mr. Tree entered the postal service under the administration of President Monroe, and was continued in the service until last March, when his growing infirmities compelled him to retire. The whole time of his public service covers a period of more than fifty-eight years, thirty years of which he held the position of assistant postmaster of Washington. He was born in Philadelphia in 1779, and came to Washington in 1820. He has been for some years one of the vice presidents of the Society of the Old Inhabitants.

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